

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's reconsideration of the present application. No claims have been cancelled. Claims 1, 4, 9, 19, 22, 27 and 37 have been amended. New claims 40-45 have been added. Therefore, claims 1-45 are presented for examination.

Claim Amendments

Applicant has amended the claims to more particularly point out what Applicant regards as their invention by bringing in limitations from other claims. No new matter has been added as a result of these amendments.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

DeLorme

Claims 1-8, 14, 19-26, 32, and 37-39 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by DeLorme et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,948,040 ("DeLorme"). Applicant reserves the right to challenge the use of DeLorme as prior art. Applicant respectfully submits, however, that the present claims are not anticipated by DeLorme.

DeLorme discloses a travel reservation and information system (TRIPS) that permits a user to custom-define and examine a travel route and/or plans based upon answers to the questions where, what, when and how. The TRIPS may be accessed through kiosks or dedicated work stations at remote locations. Further, users may transmit and receive characteristically structured TRIPS data packets that typically concern needs for travel information or arrangements. DeLorme discloses that TRIPS

travel information may be sent to a user in a moving car or a remote place by wireless communication. The response from the TRIPS provider to the user may include graphics output of named map grids. (DeLorme, col. 73, ll. 18-63).

Independent claims 1, 19 and 37, as amended, each include the limitation of receiving digital images from an electronic device controlled by a user. Applicant respectfully submits that DeLorme does not disclose this limitation. DeLorme is directed to transmitting graphical travel information, such as maps, to a user as part of a travel information system. The TRIPS system does not receive graphical information from the user. In contrast, the claims include the limitation of receiving digital images from an electronic device controlled by a user. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 19 and 37 and claims 2-8, 14, 20-26, 32, and 38-39 that depend from them, are not anticipated by DeLorme under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Statement of Common Ownership

The present patent Application and United States Patent 6,312,337 to Edwards, et al. were, at the time the invention of the present Application was made, owned by or subject to an obligation of assignment to Sony Corporation.

DeLorme in view of Edwards

Claims 9-13, 15-18, 27-31, and 33-36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over DeLorme in view of Edwards, et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,312,337

(“Edwards”). Applicant respectfully submits that U.S. Patent No. 6,312,337 to Edwards is disqualified as prior art under 35 U.S.C. §103(c) because of the common ownership of the patent and the present application. DeLorme does not teach or suggest receiving digital images from an electronic device controlled by a user, as claimed in claims claims 9-13, 15-18, 27-31, and 33-36. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 9-13, 15-18, 27-31, and 33-36 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

New Claims

New claims 40-45 have been added. Applicant respectfully submits that new claims 40-45 are allowable for at least the reasons discussed above.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that in view of the amendments and discussion set forth herein, the applicable rejections have been overcome and the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

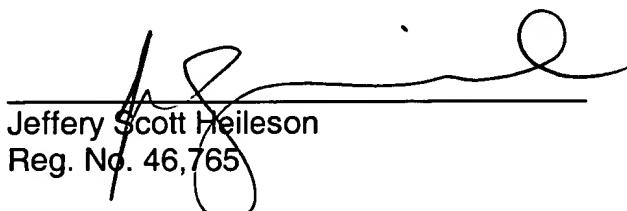
If the Examiner determines the prompt allowance of the claims could be facilitated by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to contact Scott Heileson at (408) 720-8300.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due. Furthermore, if an extension is required, then Applicant hereby requests such extension.

Respectfully submitted,

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